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To:



# STREET TALK

**July 2016** 



A new mural adorns the Venice Blvd Great Street

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Welcome to the July 2016 edition of Street Talk, the Great Streets Initiative's monthly newsletter! Here, we'll update you on the work happening in our studio and out on the streets. If you're reading this and need more great news in your life, check out our new website, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, or double-tap us on Instagram.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- June Arts Events
- Beautify Western Ave Clean Ups and Murals
- Save the Dates!

See you on the street!

-The Great Streets team

## **June Arts Events**

June saw a wave of major arts and cultural programs come to Great Streets, bringing thousands of community members together to enjoy their streets as public spaces.







Top: Reseda Summer Art Series Bottom: Sherman Way Art Walk (left); Mar Vista Art Walk (right)

## **Reseda Summer Arts Series Finale**

The Reseda Blvd Summer Arts Series went out with a bang June 4, capping off a series of bi-weekly events in May and June that drew well over a thousand visitors to experience Reseda Blvd in a whole new way. The Department of Cultural Affairs supported this project with an Arts Activation Fund grant for emerging artists that seek to put art and culture at the core of our neighborhoods and public spaces. The series helped continue momentum from the new street design and the [RE]visit [RE]seda Challenge Grant -- both led and championed by Councilmember Mitch Englander.

## **Sherman Way Art Walk / Night Market**

Sherman Way was transformed the night of June 4 for the inaugural 11:11 Arts Collective Art Walk and Night Market. An estimated 5,000 residents walked and rolled down this iconic Valley boulevard to enjoy live music, food trucks, and local vendors. Councilmember Blumenfield's Reseda Rising campaign was on hand to share their community-led vision plan for the corridor, which will capitalize on the energy and momentum generated in June.

## **Mar Vista Art Walk**

The burgeoning Mar Vista art scene along Venice Blvd shined on June 2 thanks to local organizers with the Mar Vista Community Council and Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Councilmember Bonin and the Department of Cultural Affairs. Local painters and musicians lined the street as passersby took in the local culture, businesses, and all that this neighborhood main street has to offer.

## **Beautify Western Clean Up and Murals**







Top: Councilmember David Ryu kicks off the day with 200 volunteers Bottom: Mural at Melrose Home Furnishing by artist Geno (left); Local youth give Western a deep clean (right)

Over 200 volunteers turned out on June 11 to kickstart making Western Ave a truly Great Street! After a welcome from Councilmember David Ryu and Deputy Mayor Barbara Romero, volunteers got to work on a neighborhood cleanup and mural projects.

Several groups scoured the corridor removing litter and weeds, while residents and artists teamed up to prep walls for installation of art murals that will give the Western Ave Great Street a splash of color and stronger sense of place.

When completed a total of seven murals and seven painted utility cabinets will adorn Western Ave from Melrose Ave to 3rd St. Complementing these improvements are 17 new high-visibility crosswalks installed by LADOT in early June.

## Save the Dates!

The next batch of arts programs are coming to a Great Street near you. The Arts Activation Fund -- a program of the Department of Cultural Affairs -- awarded grants to three exciting projects coming to Pico Blvd, Central Ave, and 1st St.



## Make It on Pico - Thursday, July 21

Join us July 21 to Make It on Pico for free arts and crafts workshops on Pico Blvd between Hauser and Curson from 5pm to 9pm. There will be music, food and entertainment for everyone to enjoy. Party with us and illustrate your artistic skills -- no reservations needed. Click here for more information.

## The Central Avenue Garden Mosaics Project - Saturday, July 30 & Sunday, July 31

South LA non-profit, A Place Called Home (APHC), will be exhibiting the Central Avenue Garden Mosaics Project at the 21st annual Central Avenue Jazz Festival on July 30 and 31 between 11am and 7pm. Come to this internationally renowned two-day festival and create mosaic stones designed by APCH youth. Click here for more info on the Central Avenue Jazz Festival.

#### Boyle Heights en Movimiento - Sunday, July 31

On July 31 from 10am to 1pm, Boyle Heights en Movimiento kicks off as Multicultural Communities for Mobility (MCM) hosts their first charrette at Self-Help Graphics (1300 E. 1st St). MCM is collaborating with the Self-Help Graphics and UCLA's Urban Humanities Institute to create participatory artmaking to increase visibility for Boyle Heights community members who walk, bike, and take public transit. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

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